

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA
SOUTHERN DIVISION**

SHAWN COREY CARTER,

Plaintiff,

vs.

ANTHONY BUZBEE, *et al.*,

Defendants.

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CIV. ACT. NO. 1:25-cv-86-TFM-MU

ORDER

Pending before the Court is *Motion for Leave to Proceed Using Pseudonym for One Defendant* (Doc. 2, filed 3/3/25). The Court provisionally allowed for the case to proceed to await the parties to appear for full briefing on the subject. That time is now.

As courts have long recognized, “[l]awsuits are public events.” *Doe v. Frank*, 951 F.2d 320, 324 (11th Cir. 1992). We view “[t]he operations of the courts and the judicial conduct of judges’ as ‘matters of utmost public concern’” because “[t]he common-law right of access to judicial proceedings, an essential component of our system of justice, is instrumental in securing the integrity of the process.” *Romero v. Drummond Co.*, 480 F.3d 1234, 1245 (11th Cir. 2007) (first quoting *Landmark Commc’ns, Inc. v. Virginia*, 435 U.S. 829, 839 (1978); and then quoting *Chicago Trib. Co. v. Bridgestone/Firestone, Inc.*, 263 F.3d 1304, 1311 (11th Cir. 2001)). As such, ordinarily, courts require that parties to a lawsuit proceed “in their own names.” *Plaintiff B v. Francis*, 631 F.3d 1310, 1315 (11th Cir. 2011). That said, a party may overcome this “strong presumption” against anonymous pleading only by establishing “that he has a substantial privacy right which outweighs the customary and constitutionally-embedded presumption of openness in judicial proceedings.” *Id.* at 1315-16 (quoting *Frank*, 951 F.2d at 323).

As such, it is **ORDERED** that the parties shall file their briefs on the issue of proceeding under a pseudonym on or about **August 22, 2025**. Any responses to briefs should be filed on or before **August 29, 2025**.

DONE and **ORDERED** this 7th day of August, 2025.

/s/Terry F. Moorer
TERRY F. MOORER
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE